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FROM: PARIS

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 4183, MAY 14, 11 AM

PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT 4183; REPEATED INFORMATION BERLIN 156,  
BONN 466, LONDON 930, MOSCOW 290.

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EMBASSY BELIEVES FRENCH WILL PROBABLY AGREE TO WIDE-RANGE  
COUNTER-HARRASSMENTS WITHIN GERMANY AND ALSO ACQUIESCE  
IN MEASURES WE OURSELVES MIGHT WISH TO TAKE ELSEWHERE.  
HOWEVER, EMBASSY RECALLS THAT IN DISCUSSIONS ON THIS  
SUBJECT SOME YEARS PAST FRENCH HAVE SHOWED RELUCTANCE  
TOWARD PLANNING WORLD-WIDE COUNTER-HARRASSMENTS. ON  
OTHER HAND, WHEN PROVOKED FRENCH HAVE ON AT LEAST ONE  
OCCASION- BLASTING OF SOVIET RADIO TOWER FRENCH SECTOR  
BERLIN- GONE FARTHER IN PRACTISE THAN ALLIES MIGHT HAVE  
CONSIDERED PRUDENT.

ON BALANCE, EMBASSY BELIEVES FRENCH UNDER DE GAULLE WOULD  
BE MORE RECEPTIVE TO TYPE OF PLANNING REFTEL THAN IN  
FOURTH REPUBLIC. HOWEVER, AS IN CASE OF CONTINGENCY  
PLANNING ON ACCESS TO BERLIN, WE BELIEVE FRENCH WOULD  
REFRAIN FROM COMMITTING THEMSELVES A PRIORI PREFERRING  
TO RESERVE TAKING OF FINAL DECISION ONLY IN LIGHT OF ACTUAL  
EXISTING CIRCUMSTANCES.

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